Guarantee of payments from SEBs to Private Sector

970. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the proposals from private sector for generation of electricity are stuck mainly on the issue of guarantee of payments from the State Electricity Boards;

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to fulfil that guarantee;

(c) whether the foreign companies want a Sovereign guarantee from Government of India regarding payment of dues;

(d) if so, what steps Government are taking to give that guarantee and by when;

(e) what are the details of the projects which could get completed by January 31 this year; and

(f) what steps Government propose to ensure power availability to the industry and agriculture in the wake of liberalisation of economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Some foreign companies have requested Government guarantee for payment of dues by State Electricity Boards.

(d) The Government of India will consider extending a counter guarantee for the payment obligations of the State Electricity Boards to the private power companies on the specific request of the concerned State Governments.

(e) As on 31st January, 1993, the following generating capacity was in operation in the private sector:

Tata Electric Companies . .	1606MW
Ahmedabad Electric Companies	503MW
CESC Ltd.	620MW
AP Gas Power Co. . . .	93MW
GIPCL	145MW
	2979MW

(f) Government is currently implementing a policy to attract private investment in the power sector, which would result in capacity addition leading to improvement in the overall availability of power to the country as a whole including availability of power to agricultural and industrial sectors.

Power Crisis in Western U.P.

971. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Western U.P. has been reeling under the worst ever power crisis, recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are reasons for the power crisis;

(d) whether it is a fact that the power crisis has hit the industrial and agricultural (Rabi irrigation) activity;